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President Trump said on Monday that the white supremacists responsible for the violence in Charlottesville, Va., had "evil" views.

After Promising 'Fire and Fury,' A Push to Assuage Fears in Asia

By MARK LANDLER

WASHINGTON – President Trump, following days of bellicose threats toward North Korea and jitters about a looming trade war with China, moved on several fronts on Monday to ease tensions in East Asia, after making the region a flash point for his administration.

As he opened a long-awaited trade action against China, Mr. Trump used uncharacteristically restrained language and a multistep bureaucratic process that will quite likely put off punitive steps against Beijing for months, if not forever. On North Korea, several of the president's top advisers tried to tamp down fears of a clash after his threat to rain "fire and fury" on the government there.

In Seoul, Gen. Joseph F. Dun-

ford Jr., the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, assured President Moon Jae-in of South Korea that military options against North Korea were a last resort. His message was the latest effort to reinforce a sense of calm that was earlier telegraphed by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Secretary of State Rex W. Tillerson.

Taken together, the administration's tempered words underscored the complex reality that Mr. Trump faces in Asia: Having explicitly linked China's cooperation on North Korea with his trade policy toward Beijing, the president is now softening his tough language on trade to enlist China's support in combating a nuclear threat from Pyongyang.

Mr. Trump campaigned against Continued on Page A5

Bannon in Limbo as President Is Urged to Oust Lightning Rod

By MAGGIE HABERMAN and GLENN THRUSH

Rupert Murdoch has repeatedly urged President Trump to fire him. Anthony Scaramucci, the president's former communications director, thrashed him on television as a white nationalist. Lt. Gen. H. R. McMaster, the national security adviser, refused to even say he could work with him.

For months, Mr. Trump has considered ousting Stephen K. Bannon, the White House chief strategist and relentless nationalist who ran the Breitbart website and called it a "platform for the altright." Mr. Trump has sent Mr. Bannon to a kind of internal exile, and has not met face-to-face for more than a week with a man who was once a fixture in the Oval Ofaccording to aides and fice, friends of the president.

So far, Mr. Trump has not been

able to follow through — a product of his dislike of confrontation, the bonds of a foxhole friendship forged during the 2016 presidential campaign and concerns about what mischief Mr. Bannon might do once he leaves the protective

custody of the West Wing. Not least, Mr. Bannon embodies the defiant populism at the core of the president's agenda. Despite being marginalized, Mr. Bannon consulted with the president repeatedly over the weekend as Mr. Trump struggled to respond to the neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville, Va. In general, Mr. Bannon has cautioned the president not to criticize far-right activists too severely for fear of antagonizing a small but energetic part of his base

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Trump Condemns Racists But Creates Fresh Uproar

Remarks on Virginia Are Seen as Too Late — He Also Attacks a C.E.O. on Twitter

By GLENN THRUSH

WASHINGTON — The crisis in Charlottesville, Va., presented President Trump with a choice between adopting the unifying tone of a traditional president or doubling down on the go-it-alone approach that got him elected in 2016.

On Monday, Mr. Trump offered a glimpse of a more calming and conventional president, but he ended the day with a flurry of angry tweets that left little doubt he intended to govern on his own

Mr. Trump, after two days of issuing equivocal statements. bowed to overwhelming pressure that he personally condemn white supremacists who incited bloody weekend demonstrations in Charlottesville.

'Racism is evil," said Mr. Trump, delivering a statement from the White House at a hastily arranged appearance meant to halt the growing political threat posed by the unrest. "And those who cause violence in its name are criminals and thugs, including the K.K.K., neo-Nazis, white supremacists and other hate groups that are repugnant to everything we hold dear as Americans."

But before and after his conciliatory statement — which called for "love," "joy" and "justice" – Mr. Trump issued classically caustic Twitter attacks on Kenneth C. Frazier, the head of Merck Pharmaceuticals and one of the country's top African-American executives.

Mr. Frazier announced Monday morning that he was resigning from the American Manufacturing Council - the first of three chief executives who quit the advisory panel on Monday — to protest Mr. Trump's initial equivocal statements on Charlottesville.

"Now that Ken Frazier of Merck Pharma has resigned from President's Manufacturing Council, he will have more time to LOWER RIPOFF DRUG PRICES!" the president wrote at 8:54 a.m., as he departed his golf resort in Bedminster, N.J., for a day trip back to Washington.

Late Edition

Shortly before leaving the capital, Mr. Trump attacked the news media for blowing the episode out of proportion.

'Made additional remarks on Charlottesville and realize once again that the #Fake News Media will never be satisfied ... truly bad he wrote Monday people!" evening.

"Trump faced a fork in the road today, and he took it," said Representative Nancy Pelosi, Democrat of California and the House minority leader. "He showed cowardice on Saturday by refusing to call out the racists and neo-Nazis, and on Monday he showed how uncomfortable he was in delivering another kind of message."

Even Mr. Trump's allies worried that his measured remarks, deliv-

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Far Right Plans Its Next Moves With New Vigor

By ALAN FEUER

The white supremacists and right-wing extremists who came together over the weekend in Charlottesville, Va., are now headed home, many of them ready and energized, they said, to set their sights on bigger prizes.

Some were making arrange ments to appear at future marches. Some were planning to run for public office. Others, taking a cue from the Charlottesville event - a protest, nominally, of the removal of a Confederate monument - were organizing efforts to preserve white heritage symbols in their home regions.

Calling it "an opportune time," Preston Wiginton, a Texas-based white nationalist, declared on Saturday that he planned to hold a 'White Lives Matter" march on Sept. 11 on the campus of Texas A&M — with a keynote speaker, Richard B. Spencer, who was featured at the Charlottesville event. Mr. Wiginton was not the only one seeking to capitalize on the weekend's events. On Monday, Austin Gillespie, a conservative Florida lawyer who is better known as Augustus Sol Invictus and attended the "Unite the Right" rally in Virginia, said he planned to announce on Tuesday that he would seek Florida's Republican nomination for the Senate. And at a news conference on Monday, Mr. Spencer, a prominent white supremacist, promised to return to Charlottesville for another rally. "There is no way in hell that I am not going back," he said. The far right, which has returned to prominence in the past year or so, has always been an amalgam of factions and causes, some with pro-Confederate or neo-Nazi leanings, some opposed to political correctness or feminism. But the Charlottesville event, the largest of its kind in recent years, exposed the pre-existing fault lines in the movement.



Is Aimed at Future Dominance

By JAVIER C. HERNÁNDEZ

Chinese Quest for Technology

BEIJING — In Chinese schools, students learn that the United States became a great nation partly by stealing technology from Britain. In the halls of government, officials speak of the need to inspire innovation by protecting inventions. In boardrooms, executives strategize about using infringement laws to fell foreign rivals.

China is often portrayed as a land of fake gadgets and pirated software, where intellectual property like patents, trademarks and copyrights are routinely ignored.

The reality is more complex. China takes conflicting posi-

tions on intellectual property, ignoring it in some cases while upholding it in others. Underlying those contradictions is a long-held view of intellectual property not as a rigid legal principle but as a tool to meet the country's goals. Those goals are getting more

ambitious. China is now gathering know-how in industries of the future like microchips and electric cars, often by pushing foreign Continued on Page A5

Harrods department store in South Kensington has long been a symbol of luxury in London.



A Chance to Spy on the Sun

Scientists plan to use a jet to collect data about the sun during the eclipse. Above, nurses observing an eclipse in 1927. Page D1.

Tower Fire Lays Bare Divided District's Tensions

By KATRIN BENNHOLD

LONDON — The Ferraris were driving people batty in affluent South Kensington. Drivers revved their engines and ripped past Harrods. Residents were already irritated by the dust and noise from superrich neighbors building underground swimming pools and cinemas. Now came complaints about Middle Eastern "types" drag-racing at night.

Up in North Kensington, a part of London that is home to some of

LOSING LONDON Two Sides of a Borough

Britain's poorest residents, the complaints were more elemental. People were fighting plans to close a day care center, lease out a public library and demolish a community college. At one public housing project, Grenfell Tower, residents had complained about fire safety issues for years: power surges that blew up television sets and filled rooms with smoke, out-

dated fire extinguishers and the absence of a communal fire alarm.

The very different complaints from the opposite ends of Kensington received very different responses from the 50-member council representing the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The Ferraris were debated in the council chamber. Fines of up to 1,000 pounds were imposed on revving engines. Underground construction projects were restricted.

The concerns in North Kensing-Continued on Page A6

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The ugliness of the rally Continued on Page A13

C.E.O.S OUT Three corporate chieftains quit a presidential council in protest. PAGE B1

POLICE TACTICS When protesters have guns, strategy is reduced to keeping enemies apart. PAGE A12

MISIDENTIFIED Online sleuths mistook an Arkansas lab director for a rally participant. PAGE A12

NATIONAL A9-18

F.B.I. Thwarts Bombing

A man was accused of trying to attack a bank in Oklahoma City using a device similar to the one that destroyed the federal building there in 1995. PAGE A9

A Cadet Topples Two Barriers

Simone Askew is the first African-American woman to hold the highest student position at West Point. PAGE A9

BUSINESS DAY B1-6

Headaches at HBO

It should be a joyous summer for HBO, but a hacking and criticism over a coming series have cast a pall. PAGE B1

INTERNATIONAL A4-8

An Employee-Owned Brothel

Amsterdam is trying to clean up its famous red light district by empowering those who work there. PAGE A8

Trump Roils Latin America

The president's threat to use military force against Venezuela has stirred memories of U.S. intervention. PAGE A4





ARTS C1-7

The Art of Neural Networks

A dreamer's idea of using artificial intelligence to create music and art is coming to fruition via Google. PAGE C1

Theatrical Perfume Inhaled

Sampling a repertory company's glorious range at the Stratford Festival in PAGE C5 Ontario. A Critic's Notebook.

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A Cabby's Quiet Death

A 59-year-old taxi driver named Mehari Bokrezion took his last breath while stopping for a rest during his shift in Lower Manhattan. Nobody noticed him for 18 hours. PAGE A19

A Low-Key Candidate

Geoffrey S. Berman, the lawyer being considered by the Trump administration for United States attorney in Manhattan, is easygoing and relatively anonymous. PAGE A20

EDITORIAL, OP-ED A22-23 **David Brooks**

SPORTSTUESDAY B7-11

From France to the Knicks

Frank Ntilikina, a 19-year-old guard who was drafted in the first round, is having fun in a new country. But he's ready to get to work. PAGE B7





ANDREW TESTA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES